

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 7 as follows:

Claims 1-6 (canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A linear actuator for control of a valve, including a motor portion (2) and an actuator device portion (3) comprising a rotatable member (9) provided with a threaded portion (10) matching a threaded portion (12) of a linear displacement threaded bolt (11), the rotatable member being supported by bearings (15, 16) and drivable in rotation by the motor portion, characterized in that the linear actuator further includes an axially compressible coil spring (19) mounted in a compressed state between a valve head (37) arranged at the end of the threaded bolt (11) and a casing of the actuator, the threaded portion (10) of the threaded bolt comprising at least one thread arranged at an angle α relative to a ~~plane~~plane orthogonal to the axial direction of motion of the threaded bolt, where $\tan(\alpha)$ is greater than the friction coefficient μ between the threaded bolt and the rotatable member so that the threaded bolt is reversible, wherein in case of power interruption or motor failure, the rotor is caused to rotate as the spring drives the valve head against a valve seat to close the valve.

8. (Previously Presented) An actuator according to claim 7, wherein the threaded portion of the threaded bolt includes at least two threads.

9. (Previously Presented) An actuator according to claim 7, wherein the coil spring is mounted outside the actuator and around a cover portion (13) which forms part of the casing of the actuator.

10. (Previously Presented) An actuator according to claims 7, further including a partition wall (4) separating the motor portion from the actuator device portion and having a wall portion extending in an air gap (8) between the motor portion and the rotatable member of the

actuator portion, the partition wall being also a structural component enabling assembly and position of the motor portion and the actuator portion.

11. (Previously Presented) An actuator according to claim 10, wherein the casing of the actuator includes a cover (13) comprising an actuator bearing portion, wherein the rotatable member, bearings and cover (13) are insertable axially into a cavity formed by a partition wall (4), the cover (13) being force-fitted into a matching cavity of the partition wall (4).

12. (Previously Presented) An actuator according to claim 11, wherein the actuator includes a body portion (14) provided at an end of the rotatable member distal from the cover (13) and comprising a bearing portion (16), wherein said body portion (14) is axially insertable into the partition wall (4) to abut axially against the partition wall, via elastic means (26).